

dissolved, sufficient cold water should be added to make 4 gallons and three-quarter pint of kerosene should be well stirred in. The emulsion must be warm when used and must be kept well stirred.

"In every case it is advisable that the beans should be burned after the crops have been gathered."

T. F. C.

Castor Oil.

The question as to the market possibilities of Castor Oil production from locally grown crops is again the subject of much discussion. "Tropical Life" Vol. XV, No. 12 contains an article in which the problem is considered from a commercial point of view, and from which the following extract is taken. Methods of cultivation are also given. "Taking the American and English figures as a guide, we see then that the price in 1909 was somewhat about 4s., and in 1910 in the vicinity of 5s. 4d. per bushel.

"The cost of production can only be arrived at according to locality; it would be somewhat similar to the cost of producing an acre of maize except that the harvesting is much more expensive. This is accounted for by the fact that the pods do not ripen evenly and the crop has to be gone over several times in order to harvest it. An estimate for producing, harvesting, bagging, and marketing, a 20 bushel crop of castor beans, allowing 10s. per annum for rent would not be less than £5 per acre.

"From the above figures farmers will be able to draw their own conclusion as to whether this crop can be considered payable. Furthermore, it may be stated that castor oil plants cannot be grown continuously on the same land for any lengthy period, because the crop exhausts the soil rapidly; so much so that some authorities state that it should be grown only once in five or six years on the same land."

T. F. C.